

**FUTURE FISHERIES IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM
GRANT APPLICATION**

(please fill in the highlighted areas)

I. APPLICANT INFORMATION

- A. Applicant Name: Flathead Conservation District
- B. Mailing Address: 133 Interstate Lane
- C. City: Kalispell State: MT Zip: 59901
- Telephone: 406-752-4220
- D. Contact Person: Patti Mason
- Address if different from Applicant:
- City: State: Zip:
- Telephone:
- E. Landowner and/or Lessee Name
(if other than Applicant): Kurt and Kent Reimer
- Mailing Address: 415 Missy Lane (Kurt) and 250 Reimer Lane (Kent)
- City: Whitefish State: MT Zip: 59937
- Telephone: 406-862-6558 (Kurt) and 406-882-4088 (Kent)

II. PROJECT INFORMATION*

- A. Project Name: Haskill Creek – Reimer Reach Floodplain Renovation
- River, stream, or lake: Haskill Creek
- Location: Township 30 N Range 21 W Section 4
- County: Flathead
- B. Purpose of Project:
- Floodplain renovation will help reduce nonpoint source (NPS) pollution from bank related sources of sediment, reduce local and downstream erosion and sedimentation, re-establish floodplain connectivity and function, and improve riparian habitat. This will help lower water temperature and improve aquatic habitat in Haskill Creek and its downstream receiving waters, thus enhancing opportunities for fish and fishing.
- C. Brief Project Description:

This stream channel/bank restoration demonstration project will install two designs for bank stabilization on 1,222' (5 adjacent sites) of Haskill Creek. High banks will be lowered to create floodplain benches. Willow cuttings, woody debris jams, toe wood and conifer/willow fascines will be placed to provide bank stability and reduce terrace erosion. A rigorous floodplain revegetation plan will improve habitat and create a riparian buffer for agricultural land.

D. Length of stream or size of lake that will be treated: 1,222 feet

E. Project Budget: 74,601.54

Grant Request (Dollars): \$ 10,909.54

Contribution by Applicant (Dollars): \$ 3,000 In-kind \$ 5,647
(salaries of government employees are not considered as matching contributions)

Contribution from other Sources (Dollars): \$ 40,000 In-kind \$ 18,045
(attach verification - See page 2 budget template)

Total Project Cost: \$ 74,601.54

F. Attach itemized (line item) budget – see template

G. Attach specific project plans, detailed sketches, plan views, photographs, maps, evidence of landowner consent, evidence of public support, and/or other information necessary to evaluate the merits of the project. If project involves water leasing or water salvage complete supplemental questionnaire (fwp.mt.gov/habitat/futurefisheries/supplement2.doc).

H. Attach land management and maintenance plans that will ensure protection of the reclaimed area.

III. PROJECT BENEFITS*

A. What species of fish will benefit from this project?:

Mostly brook trout, some westslope cutthroat. Water quality improvement in Haskill Creek will indirectly improve all downstream receiving waters in the Flathead basin.

B. How will the project protect or enhance wild fish habitat?:

Improved floodplain function will reduce bank erosion and sedimentation, improving water quality. A healthy riparian area will provide a buffer from agricultural land. Enhanced riparian vegetation and bank treatments will improve fish habitat by providing shade, helping to lower water temperature, increasing pool frequency, increasing bed sediment size and creating more complex aquatic habitat through increased bank roughness and debris jams.

C. Will the project improve fish populations and/or fishing? To what extent?:

Improved aquatic habitat and water quality will enhance opportunities for fish. New floodplain benches will create better, safer access for fishing. A similar project completed upstream reduced bank-related erosion and sedimentation by 86-93%, increased bed sediment size and increased pool frequency. We expect this project to yield similar results.

D. Will the project increase public fishing opportunity for wild fish and, if so, how?:

One of the two landowners is very involved with Boy Scouts of America, and hosts BSA activities on the property.

- E. If the project requires maintenance, what is your time commitment to this project?:

As needed to meet the acceptance requirements of DEQ's Sampling Analysis Plan (SAP) and Riparian Management Plan (RMP). The RMP will specify % of bank not actively eroding and % vegetation cover on floodplain and riparian area necessary to release the project from monitoring requirements.

- F. What was the cause of habitat degradation in the area of this project and how will the project correct the cause?:

Direct channel manipulations have extensively modified the channel form and function. Riparian vegetation clearing, land cover disturbance and physical stream straightening have led to substantial deviations in the stable dimension, pattern, and profile of Haskill Creek within the project area and have resulted in impaired stream conditions and increased sediment supply to the creek. These changes decrease water quality and degrade aquatic habitat conditions.

This project will restore connectivity of the stream to its floodplain by creating new floodplain benches, increasing surface roughness along the banks, and vigorously replanting the banks and benches. Work with the landowners has encouraged them to act on their desire to improve, protect and enhance the streamside area. The Riparian Management Plan will establish a new relationship of the landowner with the creek and provide a healthy buffer for agricultural land.

- G. What public benefits will be realized from this project?:

Public benefits to the land expected from this project include water quality improvements (reducing NPS pollution), reduced erosion and sedimentation, improved groundwater recharge and decreased flood water velocities (due to reconnection of the creek to the floodplain). Creation of a healthy riparian area and aquatic habitat improvements will improve land based habitat and enhance fishing opportunities.

In addition, the outreach component of the project will provide applied science and service learning opportunities, with career training and community building. It will foster stewardship of our natural resources. Public outreach associated with the project will engage the entire community.

- H. Will the project interfere with water or property rights of adjacent landowners? (explain):

No.

- I. Will the project result in the development of commercial recreational use on the site?: (explain):

No.

- J. Is this project associated with the reclamation of past mining activity?:

No. It is associated with reclamation of past agricultural activity.

Each approved project sponsor must enter into a written agreement with the Department specifying terms and duration of the project.

IV. AUTHORIZING STATEMENT

I (we) hereby declare that the information and all statements to this application are true, complete, and accurate to the best of my (our) knowledge and that the project or activity complies with rules of the Future Fisheries Improvement Program.

Applicant Signature: Patti Mason

Date: November 29, 2011

Sponsor (if applicable):

***Highlighted boxes will automatically expand.**

**Mail To: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks
Habitat Protection Bureau
PO Box 200701
Helena, MT 59620-0701**

Incomplete or late applications will be returned to applicant.

Applications may be rejected if this form is modified.

*****Applications may be submitted at anytime, but must be received by the Future Fisheries Program office in Helena before December 1 and June 1 of each year to be considered for the subsequent funding period.*****